

MEMORANDUM
City of Chino
Community Services,
Parks & Recreation Department

DATE: MARCH 23, 2026
TO: COMMUNITY SERVICES, PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
FROM: TED BISTARKEY, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CSPR
JANELL ADAMS, CSPR MANAGER
MAYRA PRATT, CSPR MANAGER
MONICA TIZNADO, CLINICAL PROGRAM MANAGER
SUBJECT: PROGRAMS ACTIVITY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2026

cc: File

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

SOAR, RAAP, and High Five After School Programs

- SOAR, RAAP, and High Five sites have been working with their participants to select a submission for the upcoming L.A. County Agriculture Fair held in May.
- Participants from all SOAR and High Five sites followed a four-week curriculum celebrating Black History Month through engaging lessons, discussions, and projects highlighting influential Black historical figures. Participants had the opportunity to participate in collaborative art and outdoor activities that promoted leadership and teamwork.
- SOAR students at Walnut Elementary School brainstormed ideas and started improvements for their garden space, allowing the participants to take ownership of their program space as they work on their Agricultural Fair projects.
- RAAP participants focused on innovation and self-expression by collaboratively developing two interest-based clubs, Art Club and Soccer Club, that will occur on Wednesdays and Fridays each week.
- At High Five Preserve, participants are collaborating with Girl Scouts to start a new curriculum-based club. Elected participants will have the opportunity to build leadership, teamwork, and community service skills through hands-on activities, badge projects, and collaborative experiences.

CHINO YOUTH MUSEUM

Around the World with Crafts Program

- Thirty-four children and family members participated in the weekly program on Wednesdays.
- The program ties in crafts from around the world to cultures in the Chino community.

- Families are guided through a different culture each month. February featured Native American crafts. Children made rain sticks, feather headdresses, dream catchers, and feather necklaces.

Letter Learners Program

- Thirty-two children and family members participated in the interactive storytelling program offered on Thursdays.
- During Letter Learners, staff led children through a “get your wiggles out” activity and guided them in making alphabet Play-Doh letters, letter crafts, story time, and exploring the letters U-X.

First Friday CYM Lab Water Edition

- First Friday CYM Lab Water Edition was held on February 6, from 3:00-5:00 p.m., with seventy-six participants. The free lab program featured a STEAM experiment focused on what happens to water when it heats up or cools down.
- The new water-based program was sponsored by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Memberships

- Four family membership packages were sold.

Google Business Reviews

- The Chino Youth Museum received a five-star review from visiting guests in February.

Partnerships

- The Chino Youth Museum Coordinator met with leaders of the Chino Valley Masonic Lodge, gave them a tour of the facility, and discussed future fundraising partnerships.
- The Coordinator met with Fresh is Best Licorice owners to develop a joint fundraising proposal, which resulted in the Chino Youth Museum Board of Directors approval. Fresh is Best Licorice will sell fresh licorice at all the 2026 Bingo events. A percentage of the profits will go directly to the Museum.

COUNSELING PROGRAMS

Family Counseling

- Human Services provided counseling services to 69 participants for a total of 188 units of service. Counseling services are provided in-person, as well as through telehealth.
- The CDBG program provided counseling services to 10 participants for a total of 35 units of service.

Volunteers

- Human Services had 31 Interns, who logged a total of 968.25 hours.

Outreach and Presentations

- Human Services staff attended several Practicum Fairs hosted by California State University-Fullerton, both Azusa Pacific University campuses in Orange and Azusa, and HOPE International University MFT Trainee & Associate Job Fair. The Fair provided a venue for community agencies and perspective counseling trainees to meet and discuss

suitability and fit. Interested students were able to submit their resumes and receive further information about the program.



Recruitment of New Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) Trainees

- Human Services staff conducted the first round of interviews for the fall 2026 trainee positions. Over 50 applications were received from various universities. Those selected will start attending trainings and workshops during the summer in preparation to begin providing services in the fall.

HOMELESS OUTREACH PROGRAM

- The Homeless Outreach Team, made up of the Community Services, Parks & Recreation Homeless Outreach Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator, alongside the Chino Police Department's Quality-of-Life Team, continues to provide vital support to individuals experiencing homelessness. The team connects people with services, such as rehabilitation programs, transitional or permanent housing, and family reunification, while creating personalized case plans to help them achieve stable housing.
- The team served 18 returning clients and 18 new clients, providing a total of 63 units of service.
- The Homeless Outreach Team members shared insights about homelessness and their programs during a presentation to the Kiwanis Club of Chino.

Success Stories

- The Homeless Outreach Team met a 37-year-old man behind Mel's Liquor Store. He shared that he was recently released from jail, was currently homeless, and wanted to reunite with his father in Redding, CA, but did not have the money to get there. The team provided him with a Greyhound bus ticket, breakfast, and \$30 in food gift cards for the trip. He was successfully reunited with his father.
- A 31-year-old individual was connected to the Homeless Outreach Coordinator near Motel 6 after being referred by others experiencing homelessness. He shared that he recently became homeless after losing his job and expressed a desire to return to work. The Homeless Outreach Program provided a one-night motel stay and transportation to a recovery program in Twentynine Palms (Set Free), connecting him to immediate shelter and support.



GIVEAWAY EVENTS

Back-to-School Event

- Planning for the Back-to-School event, scheduled for Saturday, July 25, is underway. The event is seeking sponsors. Event registration dates are Thursday, June 18, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Friday, June 19, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Neighborhood Activity Center. This event hopes to provide 500 backpacks with school supplies for CVUSD students, TK and kindergarten through 12th grade, most in need.

HOPE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER (HOPE)

Case Management

- HOPE enrolled 26 new families, who received case management support for rent and utility assistance, emergency food assistance, and social service applications.
- Case Managers are currently assisting four families with navigating the Coordinated Entry System (CES). CES is the gateway to transitional and permanent supportive housing programs. One family has been living in their car since September 2025, and is on track to receive housing assistance soon.
- The CARE Closet currently has two volunteer groups assisting with donations, including U.S. Bank and Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.
- EXCEL hosted a workshop focusing on time and stress management. The upcoming workshop will kick-off discussion of college planning.
- Two families received rental assistance in the amount of \$5,320 preventing them from eviction. One family received assistance with her Edison bill in the amount of \$3,000 to prevent disconnection and allow her the opportunity to gain financial stability.
- The program received a \$1,000 donation from the Knights of Columbus service group.
- HOPE presented at the 100 Women Who Care charity event to share a program overview and advocate for funds to be donated. The organization gathers like-minded women who are looking for ways to support local non-profits. The women who attend have the chance to hear the pitch from three different non-profits and vote for the organization they would like their donation funds to go to. HOPE won majority votes and was selected as the recipient of the donation in the amount of \$8,900.



CARE Closet

- The CARE Closet served 96 individuals. Services included distribution of 25 emergency hygiene bags and 43 children received clothing.
- The program received clothing donations from Ayala High School and various community members.
- Every week, the program distributes *CARE Packs*, bags full of snacks and small meals, to 50 children to address food insecurity. Students are referred to this program through the family's Case Manager.

TYKES

- The TYKES program provided 170 services to 10 families with a child 0-5 years old.
- Currently, there have been 6 children who have received support through the Parents as Teachers program.
- The Outreach Specialist hosted a table at 6 events in February to promote Case Management support services and early childhood related resources.

POSITIVE ACTION FOR LIFE SUCCESS (PALS)

- PALS Specialists received spring caseloads for all sites. Specialists are creating groups and working with teachers at each school site to coordinate session times for all participants.
- PALS has begun at the following schools: Alicia Cortez, Anna Borba, Cal Aero, Doris Dickson, Howard Cattle, Liberty, and Newman Elementary. The remaining schools will be starting the first week of March.

HEALTHY CHINO

Hike the Valley

- Hike the Valley took place on February 7, at Wren Way and Roadrunner Ridge Loop in Anaheim. Participants enjoyed a two-mile hike to a waterfall. Once the hike concluded, hikers enjoyed healthy snacks.



Garden Workshop

- Healthy Chino hosted a Community Garden Workshop on February 21. The workshop’s topic was “Garden Journaling,” and was led by a San Bernardino County Master Gardener. Participants learned how to successfully grow and maintain plants inside their homes.



Children’s Discovery Workshop

- The Children’s Discovery Workshop took place on February 21. The workshop’s topic was “Veggie Puppets.” At the workshop, participants made and decorated their own veggie puppet to take home.



Outreach

- Healthy Chino hosted an Outreach Booth at the Heritage Farmers Market on February 25. Participants who visited the booth learned about upcoming Healthy Chino programs, workshops, and events.

Health Workshops

- In collaboration with Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP), Healthy Chino hosted Health Workshops on February 4, 11, 18, and 25, at the Senior Center. The topic was “Diabetes Management: Diabetes Among Friends.” Participants learned about diabetes and techniques to manage symptoms.



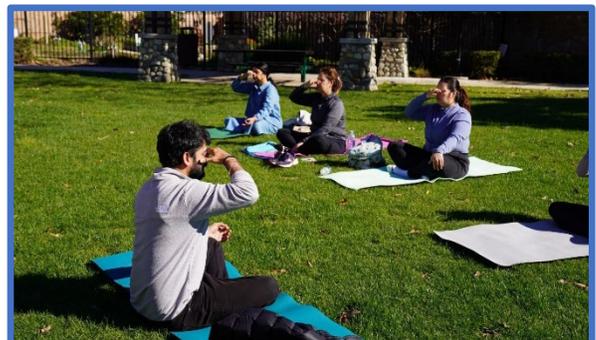
Healthier YOU Challenge

- Healthy Chino hosted the Healthier YOU Challenge: Second Annual Department Showdown. The challenge is a six-week step challenge, where participants compete against different departments within the City of Chino. Weekly prizes are given out for participants with the highest step count. At the end of the challenge, the department with the highest step count wins the challenge.



Mindful Meditation

- In collaboration with The Art of Living, Healthy Chino hosted meditation at the garden on February 21. Participants learned meditation and breathing techniques.



CITYWIDE SPECIAL EVENTS

CHINO Days

- CHINO Days is scheduled for April 11, from 2:00-8:00 p.m.; and April 12, from 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- Headliner bands have been approved and contracts are being prepared.
- Saturday headliner is “The Pistol Blonde” (country music) and Sunday headliner is “Soto Band” (Latin music).
- Staff is seeking displays and features.
- Staff is finalizing retail, information, and food vendors. Vendors are being contacted to make payment.
- Contract vendors have been finalized and contracts are being routed.
- Local entertainment is being recruited to perform throughout the event.
- Representatives from Chino and Don Lugo High Schools are being recruited for the High School Challenge.
- The Art Contest submission flyer has been sent to local schools and is available on the City website.
- Carnival contract has been finalized.
- Layout is finalized.
- Signage is being created.
- New Central Avenue and City Hall banner was routed for approval.
- Local D Street and 7th Street businesses are being notified of event street closures on March 3.
- Event flyer is finalized and has been distributed to all City facilities.
- The next committee meeting will take place on March 4.

Chino Corporate Challenge

- Chino Corporate Challenge is scheduled from May 2-15.
- Opening Day kick-off will be held on May 2, at Ayala Park.
- Events will take place at various locations throughout the Chino Valley.
- The team handbook is being updated.
- Staff reserved all participating facilities.
- Contract vendors have been finalized.
- Staff is recruiting teams to participate.
- Two teams have committed.
- Corporate Challenge website is being updated daily.
- Staff is taking inventory of event equipment to update and replace any worn-out equipment.
- Medals and trophies were approved to purchase.
- The second Team Coordinator meeting will take place on March 18, from 4:00-5:00 p.m., at the Carolyn Owens Community Center.

Chino Fireworks Spectacular

- Chino Fireworks Spectacular is scheduled for June 26, from 4:00-10:00 p.m., and June 27, from 1:00-10:00 p.m.
- Flyer is updated and final.
- Committee assignments are finalized.
- The first committee meeting was held on February 18.

- The next committee meeting will be on March 18.

Chino Movie Summer Nights

- Chino Summer Movie Nights is scheduled for Fridays, June 13, through August 1. No showings on June 26 or July 3.
- The movie line-up has been selected:
 - 6/12 Zootopia 2
 - 6/19 GOAT
 - 7/10 Lilo & Stitch
 - 7/17 Hoppers
 - 7/24 A Minecraft Movie
 - 7/31 The Super Mario Galaxy Movie
- Event flyer is finalized.
- Staff is seeking entertainment for pre-movie performances.
- Applications are finalized and will be sent to potential vendors on March 16.

SERVICES OUTREACH

Outreach successfully hosted informational booths at more than two community events, engaging over 1,310 residents. Visitors enjoyed interactive games and prizes, while learning about upcoming City programs, including the DairyAire 5K and Fairytale Fun Run, Pee Wee Sports, Spring Camp, Preserve Teen programs, CHINO Days, and the upcoming Chino Valley Youth Track and Field Meet. Outreach was excited to attend the first annual Lunar New Year Celebration; Outreach staff distributed stickers in honor of the Year of the Horse.

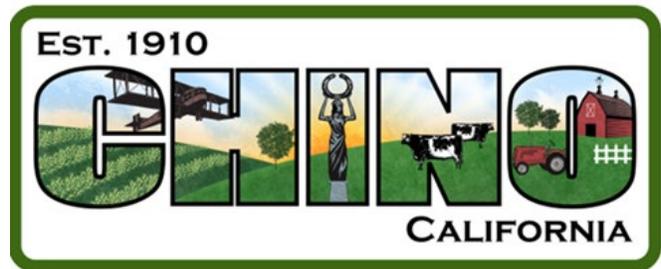
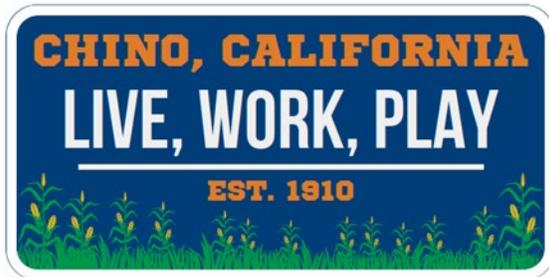


- Lunar New Year Celebration (New)
- Townsend Jr. High School College Night
- Run for Russ 5K
- Healthy Chino Garden Workshop (New)
- Chino Farmers Market

CHINO SWAG

- Chino Swag” merchandise encourages Chino pride.
- Swag items include key chains (\$4), tumblers (\$9), men’s and women’s gray t-shirts (\$14-\$16), and black t-shirts (\$16-\$18).

- Swag can be purchased at the Carolyn Owens Community Center (COCC), Neighborhood Activity Center (NAC), Ayala Park Operations Center (APOC), Senior Center, and Preserve Community Center (PCC).
- SWAG is available for purchases at all cities of Chino events.



YOUTH SPORTS

- Winter Youth Basketball League games continued throughout the month, and regular season games concluded on February 28. Championship games will be played on March 6, at the Neighborhood Activity Center. First place teams in the Boys Division A-C will advance to compete in the Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation Inland Empire Tournament on March 14-15, at various locations.
- Youth Sports staff continue to prepare for the Chino Valley Youth Track and Field Meet on March 21. There are currently 13 schools registered to participate and 942 total athletes enrolled.

PEE WEE SPORTS

- Pee Wee Basketball concluded on February 7, at the Neighborhood Activity Center. Participants put their skills on display during a fun scrimmage game. Participants were given certificates and medals at the conclusion of the session.
- Pee Wee Soccer began on February 21, at Ayala Park. Participants began learning how to control the ball, pass to teammates, and kick goals. The five-week session will conclude on March 28.

CHINO BOXING CLUB

- On February 27, the Chino Youth Boxing Foundation hosted its annual banquet recognizing the 2025 award winners. Awards were presented to boxers of the month, boxer of the year, most improved, and sportsmanship. Boxers, coaches, families, and City staff were in attendance to celebrate the award winners.

- David Santiago Cruz received the 2025 Boxer of the Year.



BATTING CAGES

- Batting Cages remain closed for renovations.

ADULT SPORTS

Men’s Basketball

- Men’s Basketball winter season continued.
- The season will conclude with playoff games on March 22, at the Neighborhood Activity Center. The top four teams in each division will qualify for playoffs.

Women’s Soccer

- Women’s Soccer winter season continued. Twelve games were played in four weeks.
- The winter season will conclude on March 31.

SPORTS FIELD RENTALS

- SoCal Elite hosted a soccer tournament on February 14-15, at Ayala Park.
- Chino Girls Fastpitch had their Opening Day on February 21, at Ayala Park.



- AYSO hosted a soccer tournament on February 28-29, at Ayala Park.
- Fields 14-15 are currently closed for turf renovations.

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVITY CENTER (NAC)

Case Management

- Ongoing Case Management services were provided to individuals on the active caseload and to unduplicated individuals. Assistance included support with unemployment insurance, employment applications, and linkage to utility, rental, and healthcare resources.
- Significant progress was achieved in preventing utility disconnections for multiple households. One household, headed by a single parent with school-aged children, faced imminent electric service termination. Through the Emergency Utility Assistance Program, approval was secured for payment toward the outstanding electric balance. Other households experiencing financial hardship due to domestic violence and serious health conditions received approvals that stabilized essential services and prevented further crisis.
- Additionally, two households were approved for rental payments through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Rental assistance prevented eviction and allowed the households to maintain safe and stable housing. The Case Manager continues to provide ongoing support to families approved for emergency assistance programs.

NAC Enrichment Classes

- Young Chefs participants explored a variety of dishes centered around breakfast.

CHINO EXPERIENCE TEEN CENTER

Chino Experience Teen Center/Teen Programs Activities

- Before and after school shuttling services continued for students attending Chino High School, Don Lugo High School, Magnolia Jr. High School, Ramona Jr. High School, and 7th and 8th graders enrolled at Briggs Fundamental.
- Throughout February, participants engaged in a series of structured recreational and skill-building activities. They competed in one-on-one basketball matchups, fostering friendly competition and physical activity.
- In addition to recreation, participants took part in hands-on culinary projects, including making Valentine's-themed cupcakes and grilled cheese bites. These activities introduced foundational kitchen skills, such as measuring ingredients, safely using stovetops and ovens, and recognizing when food is properly cooked.





Teen Opportunity Program (TOP)

- The TOP meeting took place on February 5, with 25 teenagers in attendance. During the meeting, teens had the opportunity to sign up for volunteer opportunities, such as the DairyAire 5K and Fairytale Fun Run, Ball N’ Brunch, Chino Valley Youth Track and Field Meet, Healthy Family Day, and Easter Bunny Extravaganza.

Teen Advisory Committee (TAC)

- TAC held their meeting on February 5, in the Council Chambers.
- TAC members filmed an Instagram reel to promote TAC applications opening March 24, for school year 2026/2027.

MONTE VISTA PARK

Splash Pad

- Splash Pad operates May through October.

OLD SCHOOLHOUSE MUSEUM

- The Museum had 67 visitors.

Exhibits

- The February pop-up event was held on February 4, which celebrated Malt Shop Day. Participants were able to enjoy root beer floats and celebrate Valentine’s Day in style by exploring what local diners were like in the 1950s. There were 41 participants.
- Staff started to prepare for March’s pop-up event, which will celebrate Chino’s agricultural roots in honor of Agriculture Month.





PRESERVE COMMUNITY CENTER

Programs and Classes

- The Preserve Community Center hosted Young Builders every Tuesday. Participants enjoyed hands-on STEM and wood-building activities.
- Winter Youth Basketball League held practices and games. Another successful season wrapped up on February 28.



COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEER CORP

- Hours tracked were equivalent to \$67,622.72 in volunteer service:
 - Recreation and Social Services: 916.25 hours x \$28.30 Leader pay = \$25,929.88
 - Human Services: 968.25 hours x \$43.06 Counselor II pay = \$41,692.85
- Total volunteer value since July 1, 2025: \$441,274.99
- Recruitment for volunteers took place through the following events and partnership opportunities:
 - Human Services
 - Jotform.com
 - Enrichment Classes
 - Peewee Sports
- Volunteer recruitment continues for the following upcoming events:
 - Senior Center
 - Enrichment Classes
 - Chino Youth Museum DairyAire 5K
 - Chino Youth Museum Easter Bunny Extravaganza
 - Chino Valley Youth Track and Field Meet

- Healthy Family Day
- Peewee Sports
- Ball & Brunch

SENIOR CENTER

Transportation Services

- The Get S.M.A.R.T. program provided 456 transportation trips to 73 participants for different services, including to Senior Center for activities, doctor appointments, grocery stores, banks, and post office. There were 12 new participants.
- The Get S.M.A.R.T. program Breakfast Club took place on February 4, with 14 participants, who enjoyed Hercules. Free transportation is provided to a local restaurant once a month.
- The Get S.M.A.R.T. program special trip to Walmart took place on February 20, with 15 participants.

Special Events

- The Senior Center hosted the first XOXO Bunco event to celebrate Valentine's Day. Participants enjoyed playing Bunco, refreshments, and winning door prizes. There were 32 participants in attendance.



- The Chino Senior Citizen's Club hosted a dance performance by the Chinese Folk Dance group to celebrate Lunar New Year on February 17. A total of 75 participants enjoyed the beautiful and lively performance.



- Students from Ayala High School's "Bridges of Ages" Club came and distributed winter-themed care packages to participants.



Excursions, Trips and Tours

- Nineteen participants enjoyed a trip to Pechanga Casino in Temecula. Participants enjoyed their favorite games and had lunch at one of the restaurants.
- Thirty-five participants enjoyed a trip to Little Tokyo and Chinatown. Participants enjoyed exploring both locations, watching the Lunar New Year Parade, and having lunch at one of the many restaurants.
- Seventeen participants enjoyed a trip to BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Temple. Participants strolled through the gardens and visited the bookstore, gift shop, market, museum, and temple.



Class Highlights

- Door Décor and More took place on February 23, with 13 participants. Participants decorated a St. Patrick's Day door hanger. Next month's theme is Spring and will take place on March 23.
- Forty-nine participants enjoy a new pop-up exercise class, "Slow Flow Cardio" with Gwen Jones.



Case Management

- The Aging Services Coordinator provided services to 36 participants for a total of 116 units of service. The Coordinator worked with various participants on applications for utility and rental assistance. Direct services included low-income housing lists, Medi-Cal applications, and Cal-Fresh applications. Fifty-four resources and referrals were provided to participants.
- Success Story: The Aging Services Coordinator recently assisted a participant in securing much-needed prescriptions through the PATCH program. The participant is on a fixed income. The Coordinator conducted an intake, explained eligibility requirements, and helped gather necessary documentation, including proof of income and residency. Once approved, the participant was able to access affordable prescription medications, improving medication adherence and overall health stability.

Social Services

- On February 5 and 19, HICAP provided free non-biased information for Medicare. There were 4 participants.
- On February 11, the Department of Aging and Adult services distributed 80 bus passes to participants over the age of 60.
- On February 18, Inland Counties Legal Services provided free legal aid. There were 3 participants.
- On February 26, Feeding America distributed 225 boxes to participants.

Workshops and Support Groups

- On February 2, Elidia Diaz from West End Counseling provided a workshop on the importance of social connections. There were 10 participants.
- On February 20 and 23, Pomona Valley Hospital conducted a Lunch and Learn to talk about joint health and recovery. There were 25 participants.
- On February 24, Shantelle Freitas from House of Ruth passed out brochures and talked about assisting participants that have been victimized by domestic violence. There were 14 participants.
- Every Wednesday in February, AARP provided free tax services. There were 144 participants who received help.
- The P.A.T.C.H. program was able to help two participants in affording their prescriptions.

RECREATION CLASSES / CONTRACT CLASSES

Class Highlights

- Contract renewals for FY 2026-27 fiscal year have begun, and staff has been working on compiling all required forms from our independent contractors.
- Ontario Ice has been a highly popular class, gaining 45 participants throughout the month of February across five classes.
- Young Rembrandts alternate weekly between drawing fundamentals and a humorous cartoon curriculum, where students build their skills, learn key art concepts and vocabulary, create silly characters, and currently have eight kids enrolled.



TINY TOTS

Tiny Tots

- Tiny Tot teachers helped participants learn about Groundhog Day by reading a book and leading them in a fun craft activity.
- During circle time, each participant had the opportunity to present their toy and explain why it is their favorite, helping to strengthen social and communication skills.
- This month's Creative Explorers theme was Puppy Love. Participants took part in imaginative play as veterinarians and made Valentine's Day crafts.

RECOMMENDATION

For Commission information.